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WAR EXPENSES GROWING.

PARADOXICAL as it may appear the war expenses of the United States are growing in spite of the fact that we have been out of war and virtually at peace with the world for the past six months since the signing of the armistice. It would have been deemed loyal to breathe a word of this during the drive for the Victory loan but it is undeniable that away down in their heart of hearts the American people realized this and therefore manifested no degree of haste in subscribing to the fund which the administration asserted was necessary to bring our boys back from overseas. The whole truth will come out soon enough in a ghastly revelation of wildest extravagance and hopeless prodigality of expense. The treasury report for April shows that approximately \$1,420,000,000 was paid out during last month of which two-thirds went to pay the nation's direct war bills. The gradual mounting of expense from month to month following the big drop from around two billion dollars a month last December and \$1,180,000,000 in February was cited by treasury officials as a substantial reason why the Victory loan should be oversubscribed. The increase in the last two months is attributed to the general settling of manufacturers' accounts by the war department and by the higher demands of the allies for credits with which to pay bills previously incurred in this country. The tremendous outlay in April raised the United States actual expenditures since the nation entered the war more than two years ago to about \$30,500,000,000. About \$9,000,000,000 of this has gone to the allies and will be repaid eventually. Without war the government's expenditures in two years would have been more than \$3,000,000,000, officials believe. On this basis it is indicated that the government has passed something like \$18,500,000,000 across the counter for war materials, army equipment and supplies, merchant ships, navy vessels and the overhead costs of maintaining a big fighting machine. Through saving of materials on hand and the salvaging of considerable government property, some officials hope to get as much as \$2,000,000,000. Net war costs will be reduced by that amount whatever it may prove to be.

The outlook with reference to the financial affairs of the government is anything but encouraging. If, as provided in the revenue bill passed by the last congress, only \$4,000,000,000 of revenue is raised, a huge deficit is impending for the fiscal year. In any event it looks as though we would have to have another bond issue. The difficulties of raising revenue are constantly increasing as war profits no longer exist, although the government continues to pour out large sums in fulfillment of contracts. We can and should get additional revenue from customs contracts but our foreign trade is in an altogether abnormal situation. The number of unnecessary employees in Washington is fast becoming a public scandal and, while a few are being released, preparations are now being made to take more on. The various committees on expenditure in the several departments should get busy at once to cut down expenses. All through the war these committees have been as silent as the grave not even venturing to meet. The action of the Republicans in demanding adoption of the budget system will force the issue by compelling executives to show cause for maintaining their departments on a war basis after the country has been at peace for six months.

GERMANY MUST YIELD.

THE ORDER for the American army of occupation to be prepared to move on to Berlin may be taken in the Pickwickian sense, since it is nothing more than a substantial reminder to the fallen foe that it is at the mercy of the conquering hosts who refused to hammer the Hun to his knees when the chance was offered in the field of battle. The preponderating influence and strength of the allies and the discontent of the masses back of the Rhine implies that the German people must yield regardless of terms or conditions. For a time the warlike tone of the cables will have a disquieting effect on the markets of the world, but it is timely suggestion that too much delay has already occurred in temporizing with the enemy. There is not the slightest reason for believing there is to be any renewal of warfare or that the latest order is designed for more than a demonstration to bring the Germans to their senses by acknowledging their inferiority as a war machine.

PITTMAN AS A MOUTHPIECE.

NEVADA IS NOT honored by the selection of one of her senators to urge the plea of President Wilson for adoption of the league of nations and the treaty of peace as an indissoluble piece of legislation. There is no misgiving in the minds of close observers that the merging of both instruments was anything more than a crafty scheme to coerce the Republican majority into doing something which their consciences could not condone. The Republicans from the outset have urged the enactment of a peace treaty distinct formula which must be considered from different points of view. The first and most essential desire of the masses is to secure an understanding with Germany that world commerce may be resumed and trade relations be switched back to their normal standing without any further dislocation of finance. After that there is plenty of time to get together in a peace league for the betterment of mankind and the creation of a world's democracy. The two cannot mix any more than water and oil. Jointly considered they bring in a lot of extraneous matters which should be segregated and acted upon separately. The Republicans are going to insist on this as they would have insisted had the president taken them into his confidence when he resolved to embark on his adventure in France with Colonel E. M. House as his sole counsellor and adviser. Had the president extended the senate the courtesy of a conference he would have heard something that would have been closer to the voice of the people than the dogmas of the Texas sphinx who has never been in touch with the masses.

CLARK COUNTY
POWER PLANT

A short mile tunnel to tap the Colorado river and obtain water to operate a power plant that will furnish power to the mines and other industries of eastern Nevada and Arizona, is a project that will be under way soon in Clark county, according to Colonel J. G. Scruggs, state engineer, who has returned from that section on an official trip.

The power plant will be located on the Nevada side of the Colorado river just above El Dorado canyon and will result in many mines in that locality being able to run because of the decreased cost of power. Henry C. Schmidt of Tonopah is interested in the enterprise and it is said that eastern financiers will furnish the capital, among them being Clyde Heller, representing the Delamar estate, Joseph Wharton of Philadelphia, J. B. Stetson, millionaire hat manufacturer, and George Duncan.

PARIS ZOO LOSES
CHOICE ANIMALS

(Correspondence Associated Press)

PARIS, April 22.—One hundred animals in the Paris zoological gardens died during the war. After a bomb from a German airplane made a big hole in the Rue Cuvier, alongside the gardens, the authorities thought it wise to kill the poisonous snakes, lest they should escape and cause a panic.

Later the river Seine overflowed its banks and flooded part of the gardens and monkeys, antelopes and giraffes developed chest complaints and died. Only the waterfowl flourished, but Coco, the baby hippo, the pride of the gardens, died of cholera, they say as the gardens were virtually deserted during the war.

STATE ARSENAL
SHOWS DEFICIT

(Correspondence Associated Press)

BERLIN, April 23.—The state arsenal at Spandau, which has been shut down by the government, has shown monthly deficits of 35,000,000 marks for the past few months. Estimates for April, May and June indicated a further total operating loss of 60,000,000. Attempts to utilize the gigantic plant for peace production are unsuccessful in its present condition and it will have to be dismantled.

and re-equipped. The arsenal, which in peace-time employed 9000 hands and in the past few years engaged 40,000 workers, has since the revolution developed into a hotbed of radicalism. Communist leaders openly engaged in the intimidation of other workers, threatening them with boycott and other forms of terrorism. It is stated also that the plant has also been grossly mismanaged which gradually brought on a state of passive resistance and insubordination among the workers.

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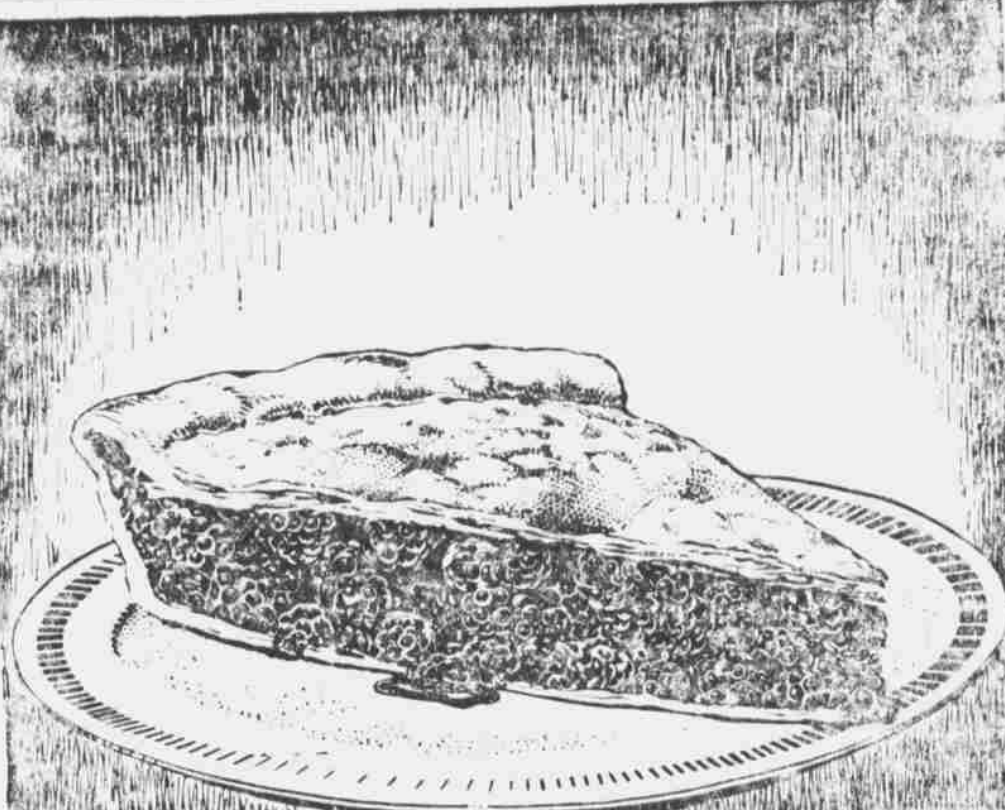
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